

REMARKS

Applicants have studied the Office communication dated May 5, 2003 and the Office Action dated February 25, 2003. Claims 18 and 19 have been previously cancelled without prejudice and claims 11-14 and 16 are currently cancelled. Reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims in view of the above amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

In response to the restriction requirement under 35 U.S.C. § 121, Applicants provisionally elect for continued prosecution of the Group I (claims 1 - 17) drawn to a method of fabricating a semiconductor substrate, and in particular Species I depicted in Figures 1a- 1h (i.e., claims 1-10, 15, and 17). Thus, Applicants request examination of claims 1-10, 15 and 17.

To advance the prosecution of the application, claims 18 and 19 have been previously canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. In addition, claims 11-14 and 16 have been cancelled in this response without prejudice or disclaimer. Therefore claims 11-14, 16, 18 and 19 are cancelled and claims 1-10, 15, and 17 are pending. Applicants expressly reserve the right to file a divisional application with respect to these cancelled claims at a later date.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application and the claims are in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, are requested.


The Examiner is respectfully requested to direct future correspondence regarding this application to the undersigned attorney at the address below.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number below should the Examiner believe a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 23, 2003

By: _____


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